

2/12/87

ANIME STUFF 2  
=====

This is the second list of some of the more interesting anime items that I have found at both BOOKS NIPPAN and WYVERN WEB GRAPHICS. This listing also contains some of my thoughts and opinions about the items.

I feel this might be handy for some of you newcomers to anime like myself who are thinking of getting some of these items. If you folks find this listing interesting and handy, please send me some feed back, and I will do monthly updates since I am always looking for new and interesting anime stuff. Come to think of it, if you folks have any products that you have bought that you would like to comment on, please E-mail them to me and I will include them with the next list.

There are no prices listed here since this is not a catalog. Also, even though I have found these items at Books Nippan and Wyvern Web Graphics, there are also several good Japanese book and record stores in most major cities that may also stock some of these items listed here.

By the way, here are the addresses of two of the best sources for Japanimation stuff in the US:

WYVERN WEB GRAPHICS  
P.O. BOX 560805  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32856

BOOKS NIPPAN ANIMATION FAN CLUB  
1123 DOMINGUEZ STREET, UNIT K,  
CARSON, CALIFORNIA 90746

Please send any questions or comments to my E-mail address 75156,1067 or post me a message here in the forum.

Before I go on, here is some corrections for the last listing submitted to me by Takayuki Karahashi (one of the people who have been VERY helpful in

helping me explore anime here on the Forum)...

EasyPlex

Date: 03-Jan-87 23:45 EST  
From: Takayuki Karahashi [75165,656]  
Subj: Stuff

Well, I was the first one to download your "Stuff" file. The Baycon book says the name of the composer of Nausicaa's music is Mamoru Hisaishi, but it's a mistake. His name is Jo (or Joe?) Hisaishi. . .Shin Kazama is tricked into joining the foreign legion in Aslan, a fictional country in the Middle East. . .HARuhiko Mikimoto--remember, the guy who signs his artwork "HAL". . .just trying to be picky.

=====  
=====

COMPACT DISCS:  
(These titles are also available in LP form, although they may not contain as many songs as available on the CD versions.)

#### SYMPHONIC SUITE MACROSS

Well I have mixed feelings about this title, but not the music...the music is great! A word of warning to collectors who are looking to expand their collection of music from the Macross TV show and Movie: The title of this disc is VERY misleading. None of the compositions on this disc appeared in either the TV show or the movie...even though the music is by the same composer. I know many fans that have made the mistake of thinking that this contains music from the show.

This disc is actually a MUSICAL INTERPRETATION of the characters and situations presented in the Macross shows as seen by the composer...er...to put it another way...this is sorta a musical sketch book of the composers interpretation of...er...well let's just say that the composer is trying to describe the Macross story and characters through just his music...no pictures and dialogue. Personally I hate the

whole concept of Music Interpretation albums.

The music on the other hand is beautiful soft orchestral and jazz music...very moody and very soothing. A great addition to your collection

if you enjoyed the works of the composer of the music of Macross. The recording was also handled very well, though I can't tell if it was recorded and/or mixed digitally.

For the "Macross only" fan, there is nothing here to recommend.

#### ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK MUSIC : MEGAZONE 23 PART 1 AND 2

I highly recommend these two albums...they contain some of the best

action-based Rock and Roll soundtrack music that is among the best that I

have ever heard. Most of today's better Rock and Roll based instrumental

soundtrack music has a clean and stark high tech edge to it (take the Miami Vice soundtrack music for example) because of the minimal number of

instruments and synthesizers used to create it. Well, the Megazone soundtracks take the opposite approach...tons of instruments (even full

orchestra on some tracks) backing up some of the best electric guitar and

synthesizer soundtrack music ever! High tech sound with a lush feel to it.

The albums also feature the excellent pop songs sung by the character

Eve. Great pop/rock vocals! I just can't keep these albums out of my CD

player! What's even harder is trying to decide which albums from which of

the two parts I'm going to play next for the 100th time...

#### BOOKS:

##### MACROSS POCKET ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Ok, so you're looking for a good book on Macross...you don't care to

blow \$90 on the MACROSS MOVIE DELUXE book...and the limited edition reprint of MACROSS PERFECT MEMORY has just sold out...what do you do?

Well, the next best thing is to buy one or both of the MACROSS POCKET ENCYCLOPEDIAS! Don't be fooled by the small 6" X 4" size of these books,

they are over 300 pages long and are like mini-MACROSS PERFECT MEMORY books in themselves.

Each book is crammed with stills, character and mecha designs, and

interesting facts from the show. In fact I have noticed some interesting

things that only appear in these books...and not in PERFECT MEMORY...such as a neat little translation table for learning the Zentradii written language (yes, now you can learn what all the Zentradii writing in Macross says)! The books are also pretty valuable for you Macross model collectors out there, since the books show pictures of kits available from several different companies. If you are a Macross fan, these little books are a must-have...especially if you can't get copies of the DELUXE BOOK or PERFECT MEMORY.

#### AM JUJU POCKET BOOKS : ORGUSS CONNECTION

If you are a Haruhiko Mikimoto fan like me, or an Orguss fan this book would be a very valuable addition to your collection since, as BOOKS NIPPAN says in their catalog, this is the only book available on the TV show ORGUSS (Well, actually, it's one of two...but more on the other book later). This book is about the same size as the MACROSS POCKET ENCYCLOPEDIAs, and feature TONS of still pictures from the early episodes of ORGUSS. Stills of each of the main characters are featured. The only disappointing thing about the book is that there are no studies of the mecha designs from the show, and none of Mikimoto's neat sketch studies of his character designs. Otherwise the books quality and still photo selections are excellent.

#### HARUHIKO MIKIMOTO ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATIONS - MACROSS, ORGUSS AND ORIGINAL

This large and colorful book is full of never before seen character studies by Haruhiko Mikimoto. The book concentrates on "HAL"s female character designs from the TV shows MACROSS and ORGUSS, plus some original sketches and pen and ink works done for commissioned projects such as album covers and magazines. There are even some interesting studies of his girlfriend.

The book mainly focuses on what is my favorite aspect of Mikimoto's talents - his work with pastels and water colors. The book is a treat for the eyes...it features his drawings in full color and some of the drawings

cover a full page or more! If you, like me, are learning how to draw in water color or pastels, this book is an excellent reference work for studying Mikimoto's techniques. If you are a fan of MACROSS or ORGUSS the book contains some of his best portraits of his female characters (again, this is the only other book that I have seen on ORGUSS). Some of my favorite illustrations from the book? Well, I love the paintings of Misa Hayase in kimono, and that fantastic 2 page (centerfold?) of Minmay in a bikini.

#### KISMET – THE FAIRY OF THE JEWEL

This is a book of Japanese poetry with fantastic water color and pastel illustrations by Haruhiko Mikimoto (HAL). When I get learn more Japanese maybe I will be able to comment on the stories and poetry contained in the book...but for now I can enjoy the pictures.

This is a new large hard-cover format book. There is not much here for Macross fans, but if you love to see a great anime artist at his best working in a new medium, this book is a delight!

Like the ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION book, HAL once again shows off his skills with pencil, water color and pastels...the illustrations are of all original character designs...well...except for the picture of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. I can't wait to be able to read the original stories and poems connected with these illustrations!

#### MAIL ORDER ANIME SHOPPING-WHO IS THE BEST?

Well, I have found that the two best places for mail ordering anime stuff has got to be BOOKS NIPPAN and WYVERN WEB GRAPHICS...Listed below are some of the advantages and dissadvantages of each...

**BOOKS NIPPAN:** By far the best place to buy anime books, anime magazine issues and subscriptions, and videos. The publish neat regular catalogs of new items in stock and pack the items they ship as if it had to travel through a war...thing always have arrived in perfect condition. It is highly recommended that you join their now famous ANIME FAN CLUB, since members get info on new items quicker and 20% discounts on most items. Very helpful with the bad Dollar-Yen situation right now. The cost

of the club membership will probably pay for itself in with your first order with the discounts that you will receive.

They will also special order items from Japan, but will not do research for finding items you want; you must provide the manufacturer and item number yourself, unless it is an item they have featured in their catalogs.

WYVERN WEB GRAPHICS: Their video prices are much higher than BOOKS NIPPAN, but they do have a big advantage in that they will do any item searches and research for you. So if an item exists, they will find it. They found a SOUTHERN CROSS 2 CD set for me that I didn't even know existed! I could hug all the folks at WW for that one! They also have the best selection of anime posters and compact discs that I have seen for mail order. Oh, and they just became the official US mail order store for ANIMATE...one of Japan's largest anime store chains. Their selection of items should really bloom now!

=====  
====

Until next time...

PLEASE ADDRESS ANY ADDITIONS, COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS TO TOM MITCHELL,  
75156,1067.